

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A brokering facility for recording and outputting tender information via a voice communication network, the brokering facility comprising:

- recording means for recording, under voice menu control, tender information from tenderers calling via the voice communication network;
- a database for storing recorded tender information;
- requesting means for parties calling via the voice communication network to request, under voice menu control, tender information stored in the database, the tender information being available to various parties; and
- outputting means for outputting the requested tender information to a requesting party; and
- location detecting means for detecting a location of a caller and for controlling the brokering facility based on of a detected location of the caller.

2. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 1, comprising:

- a voice menu control device for requesting, under voice menu control, control information from a tenderer and/or a party calling via the voice communication network.

3. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 2, wherein the recording means and/or the requesting means comprises selecting means for selecting an item of tender information based on an item of selection information contained in requested control information.

4. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 2 or 3, wherein the tender information comprises different tender categories in the database, and wherein the recording means and/or the requesting means comprise selecting means for selecting a tender category based on selection information contained in requested control information.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The brokering facility of claim 1 [[5]], wherein the recording means records, under voice menu control, tender information from a tenderer based on a detected location of the tenderer.

7. (Currently Amended) The brokering facility of claim 1 [[5]] or 6, wherein the requesting means requests, under voice menu control, tender information based on a detected location of the interested party.

8. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 1, further comprising:

authentication means for verifying an item of authentication information that is entered by a calling tenderer and for granting access authorization to the tenderer if the authentication information is verified.

9. (Currently Amended) The brokering facility of claim 1, further comprising:

connection detecting means for detecting connection identification information from callers, and a database in which an item of connection identification information from a caller has an associated individual item of user profile information.

10. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 9, wherein the recording means records, under voice menu control, tender information based on stored user profile information associated with a detected item of connection identification information from a tenderer.

11. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 9 or 10, wherein the requesting means requests, under voice menu control, tender information on the basis of stored user profile information associated with a detected item of connection identification information from a party.

12. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 1, further comprising:

a switching device for setting up a connection between a party and a tenderer of an item of tender information selected by the party.

13. (Original) The brokering facility of claim 1, further comprising:
logging means for logging access operations to tender information from a tenderer and
for outputting logged access information to the tenderer.

14. (Currently Amended) The brokering facility of claim 1, further comprising:
~~by debiting~~ debiting means for detecting access operations to the brokering facility and for
debiting charges for individual tenderers and/or interested parties based on detected access
operation.

15. (Currently Amended) A brokering system comprising:
a plurality of brokering facilities according to claim 1, each brokering facility further
comprising:
~~means for detecting a location of a caller; and~~
a switching device for setting up a connection between ~~the~~ a caller and a one of the
plurality of brokering facilities that detects ~~the~~ a location of the caller.

16. (New) A brokering system configured to record, and to output, tender information
via a voice communication network, the brokering system comprising:
one or more databases configured to store tender information; and
one or more processing devices configured to perform the following actions:

record, under voice menu control, tender information from tenderers calling via the voice communication network;

• provide voice menu control for parties calling via the voice communication network to request tender information stored in the one or more databases;

output requested tender information to a requesting party;

detect a location of a caller; and

control the brokering system based on of a detected location of the caller.

17. (New) The brokering system of claim 16, wherein controlling the brokering system comprises recording, under voice menu control, tender information from a tenderer based on a detected location of the tenderer.

18. (New) The brokering system of claim 17, wherein controlling the brokering system comprises requesting, under voice menu control, tender information based on a detected location of the interested party.

19. (New) The brokering system of claim 16, further comprising:
a switching device for setting up a connection between a party and a tenderer of an item of tender information selected by the party.

Applicant : Joerg Hachle
Serial No. : 09/853,243
Filed : May 11, 2001
Page : 8 of 14

Attorney's Docket No.: 12758-029001
Client Ref.: 2000P011895US

20. (New) The brokering system of claim 16, wherein the one or more processing devices comprises a server.